

IOWA STATE UNIVERSITY

OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY

Interoffice Communication

DATE: October 12, 2001

TO: Corly Brooke, Co-chair of the Learning Community Advisory Committee
Doug Gruenewald, Co-chair of the Learning Community Advisory Committee

FROM: Laura Doering, Associate Registrar
Carolyn Nading, Assistant Registrar

**RE: Learning Community Retention Report – Fall 2001
Cohorts 1998, 1999, and 2000**

Table 1 includes one-year, two-year, and three-year retention rates, and average ACT/SAT scores for both the learning community and non-learning community student cohorts, years 1998, 1999, and 2000. The source of this data is the Iowa State University Longitudinal Retention Survey, Office of Institutional Research. The cohorts include first-time, full-time students who entered Iowa State University summer semester or fall semester. Summer entry students who did not continue fall are omitted. Part-time students are omitted. Deceased students are not removed from the cohort.

In all cases, the retention rate is greater for learning community students than for non-learning community students. The difference is as follows:

| Cohort year | First year retention | Second year retention | Third year retention |
|--------------------|-----------------------------|------------------------------|------------------------------|
| 1998 | LC 9.1% greater than non-LC | LC 12.7% greater than non-LC | LC 12.2% greater than non-LC |
| 1999 | LC 8.3% greater than non-LC | LC 12.1% greater than non-LC | |
| 2000 | LC 9.3% greater than non-LC | | |

Note: The average ACT score is higher for learning community students than for non-learning community students.

COMING SOON! Tables 2, 3 and 4, which will be sent to you via e-mail on Monday, October 15, illustrate retention rates for each learning community. Some students have membership in more than one learning community, and subsequently are counted when determining retention rates for each of the communities in which they belong.

c: Mark Chidister, Assistant to the President
Kathleen Jones, Registrar
Bob Bergmann, Institutional Research Analyst

Table 1. Iowa State University Learning Community
Retention Report - Fall 2001
Office of the Registrar and Office of
Institutional Research

| ADMIT YEAR | | TOTAL DIRECT ENTRIES | AVERAGE ACT/SAT | RETENTION RATE | | GRADUATION RATE AND CONTINUATION RATE | |
|---------------|---------------------------|----------------------------|--------------------|----------------------|-----------------------|--|-----------|
| | | | | END OF FIRST YEAR | END OF SECOND YEAR | END OF 3RD YEAR GRADUATED | CONTINUED |
| 1998 | Learning Community | 1080 | 25.7 | 90.9% | 85.6% | 0.7% | 80.4% |
| | | | 1073 | 982 | 924 | 8 | 868 |
| | Non-Learning Community | 2720 | 24.1 | 81.8% | 72.9% | 0.7% | 68.2% |
| | | | 2657 | 2225 | 1983 | 19 | 1855 |
| 1999 | Learning Community | 1603 | 25.3 | 90.1% | 84.0% | | |
| | | | 1567 | 1444 | 1347 | | |
| | Non-Learning Community | 2417 | 24.0 | 81.8% | 71.9% | | |
| | | | 2353 | 1977 | 1739 | | |
| 2000 | Learning Community | 1491 | 25.8 | 89.8% | | | |
| | | | 1474 | 1339 | | | |
| | Non-Learning Community | 2798 | 23.8 | 80.5% | | | |
| | | | 2718 | 2252 | | | |

Data source: Iowa State University Longitudinal Retention Survey,
Office of Institutional Research
Report printed: October 5,
2001

Direct entries include first time, full-time students who entered Iowa State summer semester or fall semester. Summer entries who did not continue fall are omitted. Part-time students are not included. Graduated status is set each year using fall through summer. Continued status is set each year using fall only.

Report prepared by the Office of the Registrar,
October 12, 2001